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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ofer Shalem, et al.
Serial Number: 09/504,018
Filed: February 18, 2000
For: Increasing Channel Capacity in Fixed Cellular Networks
Art Unit: 2685
Examiner: Ward, Ronald J

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington DC 20231

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Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to an office action dated September 11, 2002, kindly amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly delete claims 4, 22, 28-31 and 33-37, without prejudice. Kindly replace the present claims 1, 5-13, 15-16, 19, 23 and 32 with the following claims in clean form, and add new claims 38-42:

a1
1. (Amended) A method of forwarding signals over a cellular link, comprising:
receiving, at a first base station of a cellular fixed network, a packet of signals having a data payload directed to a second base station;
determining whether the data payload will be decoded by the second base station; and
forwarding the data payload of the packet if the data payload will be decoded and not forwarding the entire data payload of the packet if the data payload will not be decoded.

a2
4. ~~5~~ (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein determining whether the data payload will be decoded by the second base station comprises determining whether the second base station will forward or discard the contents of the payload.

17.

~~6~~ (Amended) A method of forwarding signals over a cellular link, comprising:
receiving, at a first base station of a cellular fixed network, a packet of signals having a